

**Draft Environmental Impact Statement
Resource Development Group
Uinta Basin Natural Gas Project**

Lead Agency:

Bureau of Land Management
Utah State Office
Salt Lake City, Utah

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ABSTRACT

Rosewood Resources, Inc., Dominion Exploration and Production, Inc., McElvain Oil & Gas Properties, and Enduring Resources (referred to collectively as the Resource Development Group) propose to develop an area in the Atchee Wash Oil and Gas Production region, south of the White River, and extract and transport natural gas. The Proposed Action encompasses approximately 79,914 acres. The development would involve drilling a maximum of 423 natural gas wells on Federal, State, and private lands, constructing roads and gathering lines for natural gas and produced water, disposing of produced water at an approved injection well, and the construction of one compressor station to move the gas to the natural gas transmission line. Construction would begin after issuance of the Environmental Impact Statement Record of Decision, the approval of Applications for Permit to Drill, and approved Right-of-Way grants. Construction would continue for approximately 10 to 20 years, and production is expected to last 40 years.

Four alternatives were considered in detail for this project. They were: Alternative 1 – The Proposed Action; Alternative 2 – Additional Wildlife Considerations, Alternative 3 – Additional Environmental Considerations, and Alternative 4 – No Action. Alternative 1 is the proposed action for extracting and transporting natural gas. Alternatives 2 and 3 were developed in response to issues raised during the agency and public scoping process. These alternatives (2 and 3) would incorporate the same construction, operational, decommissioning, and reclamation components as the Proposed Action, but with additional considerations applied to those actions taking place on federal lands. The No Action Alternative is required by the National Environmental Policy Act for comparison to the other alternatives analyzed in the Environmental Impact Statement. For this project, the No Action Alternative means that the Proposed Action would not be implemented, and current land use practices, including existing oil and gas production, would be continued. Drilling would continue on State and private leases, and access and pipelines that cross federal lands to reach the proposed State and private wells would be

granted as required by Bureau of Land Management policy. The Bureau of Land Management has selected Alternative 2 – Additional Wildlife Considerations, as the Preferred Alternative.

The Utah State Director is the Bureau of Land Management's Authorized Officer, responsible for preparing this Final Environmental Impact Statement.